

Confidential for Members

PR No. 25-60

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

June 6, 1960

Subject: American Heart Association Statement

An American Heart Association statement on "Smoking and Cardio-vascular Diseases" was adopted Saturday, June 4, by the Board of Directors.

The statement was released prematurely to the press late Monday afternoon, after the New York Post carried a "leak" story on the statement.

In the release of the American Heart Association, Dr. Carlton Ernstene, president, said that original plans were to publish the report in the July issue of Circulation, the Association's journal. Dr. Ernstene added:

"A misleading and unauthorized release on the statement by a New York newspaper today now makes it necessary, in the public interest, to issue the official statement. The statement and supporting documentation will be published as planned in the July issue of Circulation."

Immediately after the A.H.A. statement was issued to the press, a statement was forthcoming from Timothy V. Hartnett, chairman of the Tobacco Industry Research Committee.

Copy of Mr. Hartnett's statement and the statement of the Heart Association are attached.

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cc: Tobacco Institute and TIRC Members
Public Relations Representatives
Legal Representatives
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